Computerised reservations facility

1222. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of district headquarters where computerised reservation facility has still not been provided; and

(b) by when this facility will be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As per the extant policy computerised reservation facilities have been provided at all stations which have a work-load of 300 and above reservation related transactions per day. Such facilities being capital intensive, lesser volume of reservation work at other stations does not at present justify the provision of these facilities. About 94% of the reservation workload on the India Railways has been computerised. Provision of computerised reservation facilities is an ongoing process and additional locations, including district headquarters, are covered subject to justification with reference to the criterion, feasibility and availability of resources.

Construction of New Railway Station Building in Gujarat

1223. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the construction of any new Railway Station building in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Work of construction of new station buildings at Gandhi Nagar, Anand and Vadodara West side have been sanctioned costing Rs.46.11 lakh, Rs.39.98 lakh and Rs.67.68 lakh respectively. Work in this regard is expected to commence during the current year after completion of requisite formalities.

Global Tender for the purchase of Accident Relief Cranes

1224. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways had invited global tenders for the purchase of Accident Relief Cranes;

(b) if so, what are the details of the tenders received and the type of Cranes, already selected;

(c) what are the reasons that any private or public sector machine building company has not been associated with this purchase; and

(d) whether it will not be beneficial for the country to take such steps to facilitate transfer of technology for future manufacture in India and potentials for export?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) Offers from 5 firms were received inlcuding one from indigenous source. Out of these, 4 offers including the offer of indigenous firm was shortlisted after initial technical scrutiny. The tender is under consideration.

(c) It being a global tender, Private and Public Sector firms were free to participate.

(d) These types of cranes are being procured for the first time, until they are tested and tried out, Transfer of Technology is not considered appropriate.